

# WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 1850.

Justice to all whom it concerns induces us to notice the following editorial article in a New York paper of Saturday last:

FROM THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE OF MARCH 16.  
While the wrong of aiding fugitive slaves to escape was held up in all its glaring enormity, nothing was said by the speech [of Mr. Webster] against the Southern portion for imprisoning unconstitutionally the citizens of free States who come among them for no other offence than a dark hue in their skin; nothing of the outrage committed upon that venerable and excellent citizen, Mr. Hoar, sent to remedy this inconvenience at Charleston by peaceful appeal to the local tribunals. It seems, however, that the absence of allusion to these grievances was accidental; in the copy of the speech published by the Boston Courier, we find the following passage on the subject. We must say, however, that it reads quite too tamely:

"There is a more tangible and irritating cause of grievance at the North. Free blacks are constantly employed in the vessels of the North generally, as cooks or stewards. When the vessel arrives, these free colored men are taken on shore, by the police or municipal authority, imprisoned, and kept in prison till the vessel is again ready to sail. This is not only irritating but exceedingly inconvenient in practice, and seems altogether impracticable and oppressive. Mr. Hoar's mission some time ago to South Carolina was well directed to remove this cause of complaint. The North thinks such imprisonments illegal and unconstitutional; as the cases occur constantly and frequently, they think it a great grievance."

It is rather singular that, in revising his speech for the Washington Union and National Intelligencer, Mr. Webster should have forgotten to insert this paragraph, and then remembered it for the Boston Courier and home consumption. We trust that this incongruity may receive a satisfactory explanation.

We are authorized to say that Mr. Webster did not revise the speech for the National Intelligencer or the Union, nor did he read a word of the report of it before it was published in both those papers. We are further authorized to say, that in all the reports of the speech revised by Mr. Webster, whether intended for the North or the South, the above paragraph was contained; and that all reports sent or examined by him have been made to be exactly alike one to another.

The Charleston Mercury and Courier both applaud in warm terms the late speech of Senator Webster. The Mercury says:

"We cordially respond to that testimony of approval, and take occasion to say, that whether or not we merit the character of ultraism so liberally allowed to us, we have never had any of that ultraism which could prompt us to view such a discussion of a great public question as Mr. Webster has here presented to the country with any other feelings than admiration and delight."

"Not that we wholly agree with him, not that there are not many points of disagreement, but nowhere has he urged his opinions offensively; and when he reaches the true grounds of the present controversy he marks his way so clearly, and trends so loyally on the plain track of the constitution and pledges of the Government, that the difficulty is not to agree but to disagree with him. With such a spirit as Mr. Webster has shown, it no longer seems impossible to bring this sectional contest to a close; and we feel now, for the first time since Congress met, a hope that it may be so adjusted."

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The returns of the late election in New Hampshire show that the Hon. SAM'L DEXTER, the Democratic candidate, is re-elected Governor by a large majority than he received last year. The Legislature will contain a large Democratic majority, of course. The popular vote shows a slight falling off in the Free-Soil strength. The revision of the State Constitution is carried by a large majority, though a number of towns voted against it.

The Senate of LOUISIANA has refused to sanction the bill of the House for calling a Convention to amend the Constitution of the State. The measure may therefore be considered as defeated for the present.

THE FLORIDA BLOCK FOR THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.—The Tallahassee Sentinel of the 5th instant says that a suitable stone for the Washington Monument has been quarried in Wakulla county by order of the Governor of Florida, and is now on the way to New York. It is to be finished and inscribed with the arms and motto of the State in this city.

The most attractive object that meets the eye of the traveller on visiting the city of BALTIMORE is the Washington Monument, standing in an elevated position, and in the only part of the city in which architectural beauty and grandeur are displayed.

The height of the Monument, built of white marble, including pedestal, dome, column, and statue, is 159 feet.

An allusion to the above evidence of the patriotism of the State of MARYLAND is seen in the following, taken from the "Baltimore Patriot":

The following remark, made by Professor Davis, on Monday evening, in his lecture on "American Antiquities," was received with much applause:

"Why is it that we love to linger around inanimate things? It is their connection with mind that gives them such a mastery over our mind. What is old Corinth to us, but as it brings to our recollection the deeds of a Hannibal? And what will your splendid monument be to our posterity, but as it will call to their remembrance the patriotism of the Father of his Country? Yet, after the sun of centuries shall have bathed in light that grand statue, will not the deeds of Washington shine forth from the pages of history? My hearers are from the South, I am from the North; yet will we not all join in the hope that its brightest page will be that where we are exhorted to avoid 'Geographical Distinctions.'—For the observance of such advice only can secure to us unimpaird the glorious fabric of the American UNION."

CRAWFISHING.—The Nashville Union, after calling loud and long upon the Legislature to authorize the Governor to appoint delegates to the Southern Convention, to join with the Convention in adopting measures to resist at all hazards and to the last extremity the infringement of certain Southern rights, embracing the Wilcox proviso and other "kindred measures," now suggests that the Tennessee delegates be instructed to go against the adoption of any measures to dissolve the Union;—thereby crawling out of its game of brag to scare the North. Has the Union heard the thunder which reverberates throughout the hills and dales and mountains and valleys of this State? Has that lightning struck any body else?

[Nashville Whig, of March 9.]

A RAILROAD IN CHILE.—We learn from the Albany Atlas that ALLAN CAMPBELL, Esq., the well-known engineer, is to leave New York next month for Calcutta, a town in Chile, on the coast of the Pacific. He will be accompanied by his brother ALEXANDER and WALTON EVANS, as assistants, and by a corps of engineers. The object of their visit is to take charge of the construction of a railroad from Calcutta to Copiapu, a town in the interior, situated in about the 27th degree of south latitude, and fifty-five miles distant from the Pacific. The company has been formed, the means subscribed, and a partial survey of the route made. The whole elevation to be overcome does not exceed eleven hundred feet, of which all but four or five miles of fifty feet to the mile are of moderate grade. The great business of this road will be to transport copper and copper ores from the mines near Copiapu, which are among the richest in the world.

## RECEPTION OF THE FRENCH MINISTER.

M. ERNEST-ANDRE-OLIVIER SAIN DE BOIS-LECOMTE, Commander of the National Order of the Legion of Honor, Grand Cross of the Royal Order of Sts. Maurice and Lazarus, of Sardinia, Commander of the Order of Isabella the Catholic, Chevalier of the Number Extraordinary of the Noble and Distinguished Order of Charles III. of Spain, accompanied by M. BOURBOUTON, the Secretary of the French Legation, was on Monday presented to the PRESIDENT of the United States by the SECRETARY OF STATE, who was accompanied by all the Ministers of the Cabinet, as the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the French Republic. Upon delivering his letter of credence, the MINISTER addressed the PRESIDENT in the following terms:

MONSIEUR LE PRESIDENT: En me confiant la mission que je remplis auprès de vous, le Président de la République Française m'a confié un double honneur, celui de représenter mon pays auprès de la noble nation Américaine et celui de rétablir entre les deux Gouvernements des relations amicales et interrompues. Permettez-moi, Monsieur le Président, de me féliciter d'avoir à remplir un devoir si cher à mon cœur et de vous exprimer l'espoir qu'aucun malentendu ne pourra troubler désormais l'union qui existe entre deux nations si sympathiques. Comment pourrais-je appeler autrement, en effet, tout ce qui pourrait compromettre même en apparence des relations fondées sur des sentiments généraux si réels et si solides. La France la première a soutenu par les armes et reconnu par les traités l'indépendance Américaine, et le sang de ses enfants se mêle sur cette terre sacrée à celui des martyrs de cette indépendance. Le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis de son côté a été le premier à reconnaître la République Française, lorsqu'elle a été libérément proclamée par la France. Ne serais-je pas un spectacle douloureux pour l'humanité et déplorable pour la liberté de voir se séparer par des intérêts minimes les deux seules nations qui ont donné l'exemple, si noble et si consolant pour la dignité humaine, d'un Gouvernement fondé sur le droit et la volonté de tous les citoyens? Non. Un pareil spectacle ne sera pas donné au monde qui nous contemple, et les deux Républiques seurs sauront prouver, par leur exemple, que si l'ordre et la liberté peuvent être garantis par des Gouvernements librement élus, les relations internationales peuvent aussi trouver dans le même principe une base solide et durable.

Tel est le désir du Gouvernement Français, tel sera mon devoir; et en le remplissant auprès d'un Gouvernement aussi éclairé que celui des Etats-Unis, j'espère, non seulement n'éprouver aucune difficulté à conserver une Union aussi précieuse, mais j'espère encore la voir se resserrer par de nouveaux liens. La liberté politique, commerciale, et religieuse du monde entier y est intéressée, et en voyant à la tête de ce Gouvernement un guerrier patriote qui a conquis son titre par de si nobles services rendus à son pays, j'ai l'espoir que la France qui a toujours honoré le dévouement et la gloire, trouvera en lui-même une sympathie qui l'anime envers la noble nation près de laquelle j'ai l'honneur de la représenter.

[TRANSLATION.]

MR. PRESIDENT: In confiding to me the mission which I fulfill near you, the President of the French Republic has conferred on me a double honor—that of representing my country near the noble American nation, and that of re-establishing the relations, momentarily interrupted, between the two Governments. Allow me, Mr. President, to felicitate myself on having to perform a duty so dear to my heart, and to express to you the hope that no misunderstanding will in future disturb the union which exists between two nations bound together by so many sympathies. What other term could I in fact apply to any thing which might endanger, even in appearance, relations founded upon sentiments of generosity so real and so solid? France was the first to support American independence by arms, and to recognise it by treaties; and the blood of her children is mingled in this sacred land with that of the martyrs of its independence. The Government of the United States, on its part, was the first to recognise the French Republic when it had been freely proclaimed by France. Would it not be a spectacle painful to humanity, and deplorable for the cause of liberty, to see two nations, the only ones which have presented the example, so noble and so consoling for human dignity, of a Government founded upon right, and upon the wishes of all its citizens, separated from each other by trifling interests? No! Such a spectacle will not be given to the world which looks upon us, and the two sister Republics will prove by their example that, if order and liberty may be guaranteed by Governments freely elected, international relations may likewise find in the same principle a solid and durable basis.

According to the desire of the French Republic, such will be my duty; and in fulfilling it, near a Government so enlightened as that of the United States, I hope not only to experience no difficulty in preserving a union so precious, but also to see it strengthened by new bonds. The political, commercial, and religious liberties of the whole world are interested in it, and in seeing at the head of this Government a patriot warrior, who has conquered his title by such noble services to his country, I have the hope that France, which has always honored devotion and glory, will find in him the same sympathy which animates her towards the noble nation near which I have the honor of representing her.

To the Minister's address the PRESIDENT replied as follows:

SEN: I express the sentiment of the American people in welcoming you most cordially, as the Representative of a nation endeared to every American heart by the reminiscences of the past and the anticipations of the future. It is a subject of sincere felicitation to me to be the instrument of re-establishing relations, momentarily interrupted, between two nations bound together by so many associations, and I unite with you in the sincere expression of the hope that nothing will henceforth disturb those sympathies which have so long united them together in the bonds of friendship.

We have ever held in grateful remembrance the assistance which France rendered us in our revolutionary war; and we can never forget that she was the first to sustain by her arms and to recognise by treaties American Independence. With pride we advert to that portion of our history, to which you have returned, which records the united struggle of the Frenchman and the American in the cause of human liberty, mingling their blood and sleeping in death together on battle-fields consecrated by their heroic valor.

We glory, too, in the recollection that the Government of the United States was the first to greet the French Republic when freely proclaimed by the people of France; and we rejoice in the belief that no trifling interests can divide us. The harmony of the two great sister Republics should ever be maintained on terms honorable to both; and their best interests should ever be regarded as inseparably interwoven. Represented by a Minister of such distinguished reputation, France will, I trust, find that no cloud can, for a moment, overshadow our amicable relations; and I abide in the confidence that her illustrious President, chosen by the free voice of an enlightened nation to maintain its honor, happiness, and prosperity, will, on all occasions, co-operate with me in my honest efforts, not only to preserve but to strengthen the ties of amity between us; so that we may perpetually present to the world a proud spectacle of union and concord.

McCaffrey, the supposed murderer of Charles Smith and his wife, at East Rock, near New Haven, has been delivered to the authorities of Connecticut by Lord ELGIN, and is now in their custody. The murdered persons were an old infirm couple, supposed to be wealthy, and the deed was committed under circumstances of unusual atrocity.

A letter from Mayville, Kentucky, states that the number of cattle shipped eastward from that place, by way of the Ohio river and Pittsburgh, has gradually increased from 1,000 in 1847 to 5,000 in 1849, and that the number shipped thence this year will probably be 20,000.

We learn from a friend of R. M. PRICE, Esq., Parser U. S. Navy, that the statement now going the rounds of the newspapers, that he had lost, by the burning of the steamer *Orion* St. John, is a mistake. He had no funds of the Government in his charge. He, however, lost public warehouses to a large amount, for disbursements made in California, and was on his way to Washington to settle his accounts with the Treasury.—*Richmond Whig*.

## DEMOCRATIC AND FREE-SOIL COALITION.

It would seem that now, as during the last year, the Democrats in the Northern States are not willing to lose any opportunity that presents itself of entering into coalitions with the Free-Soilers; and this, too, in the face of the almost daily protestations of the "Union," the central Democratic organ, that its party has never countenanced and is not in any way responsible for the Free-Soil movement. Witness the following, copied from the New York Tribune of Saturday:

RHODE ISLAND COALITION.—HON. B. B. THURSTON, (Loco), who was defeated as the coalition candidate for Congress last year, is now the Free-Soil candidate for Lieut. Governor of Rhode Island. The Loco has refused to nominate a State ticket. But two tickets are now in the field—the Free-Soil and Whig, as follows:

Whig.	Free-Soil.
Gov. .... HENRY B. ANTHONY,	EDWARD HARRIS.
Lieut. Gov. Thomas Whipple,	Benj. B. Thurston.
Sec. State .. Christopher E. Robbins,	Sam'l R. Jackson.
Att. Gen. .... Joseph M. Blake,	Thomas Steele.
Gen. Treas. Stephen Cabonne,	G. H. Church.

This coalition stands no chance for success, as the united Van Buren and Cass vote in 1848 amounted to only 4,370 to 6,779 for Gen. Taylor. Gov. ANTHONY was elected in 1849 by a vote of 5,081 to 3,395 opposition.

A LETTER FROM GEN. HAMILTON, (of S. C.)

We copy the subjoined letter from the Charleston Courier of Friday last:

WASHINGTON, MARCH 11, 1850.

To the Editors of the Charleston Courier: GENTLEMEN: I have just this instant seen my name announced, in your paper of the 27th ultimo, as a delegate to represent the Seventh Congressional District in the Nashville Convention.

While I feel very sensibly the kind and complimentary terms in which your correspondent makes this announcement, I, nevertheless, embrace the earliest occasion to say, that, from private engagements of an imperative character, it will be entirely out of my power to serve in that assembly.

In making this declaration, I cannot refrain from saying that there is no part of South Carolina I should feel so much pride in representing as my old Congressional District, where, for just so long as I desired to serve them, I found myself generous, as steadfast, and as indulgent constituents as ever blessed the efforts of any public servant. Nor should I feel less pride in being a member of a body which, from the patriotism, firmness, and enlightened forecast which will characterize their deliberations, are far more likely to preserve than to lose the Union, by avowing and maintaining the integrity and good faith of that Constitution to which the Union owes its existence.

I hope I may be permitted to add, from the indications of public sentiment at this place, we have every reason to hope that a pacification will soon be established between the two great sections of this Confederacy, on terms of safety and honor to the South, and in which the North will not be called upon to surrender a single right or interest which the can fairly claim, or even a principle to which the most fastidious sense of pride could attach the smallest value.

Any other adjustment than this would be but a hollow and treacherous truce—the fruitless source of renewed agitation, hostility, and distrust.

Nor is there less reason to hope that the great blow Mr. Webster has had the moral courage recently to strike, is but the commencement of a reaction in public opinion at the North, decisive in its character and in its results. If such a consummation should bless the exertions of this distinguished statesman, the Union will be indeed saved in the only way in which it can be saved—by a spirit of peace, harmony and mutual justice.

I remain, with the highest respect, your obedient servant, J. HAMILTON.

## A VOICE FROM WESTERN VIRGINIA

At a large and respectable meeting of the people of Mason county, without distinction of party, held at the court-house on the 4th day of March, 1850, being the first day of the March court:

The meeting was called to order by Major CHARLES CLENDENEN, on whose motion Major ANDREW BRYAN was called to the chair, and ALEXANDER McCRAWL, Esq. was appointed secretary.

GEORGE W. SPRINGFIELD, Esq. having stated the object of the meeting, read the circular of Colonel BRAL to his constituents, dated the 9th of February last, then offered and supported by a few remarks the following resolutions, which were also supported by JAMES H. COUCH, Esq. and, after a slight amendment in the third of the series, (making it read as it now appears,) were adopted by a large majority.

Resolved, That, amidst the excitement that has been produced by the agitation of the slavery question, and at a time when party and passion have drawn in question the value and seem to threaten the integrity of the Union, we heartily approve of the moderate and conservative counsels, the compromising spirit, and the devotion to the Union of our Representative in Congress, the Hon. J. M. H. BAKER, as manifested in his circular to his constituents, lately received at this place.

Resolved, That we fully concur with Col. Beale in opposition to the proposed Nashville Convention. That we see in the circumstances of the country to demand such a measure, and no possible good to be expected from it; and, though we do not distrust the patriotic motives of the Virginia Legislature in advising the people to send delegates to it, yet, when we see it advocated by pressmen and politicians further South who openly favor Disunion, we cannot but look upon it as fraught with danger, as tending to array parties permanently on geographical divisions, and, in short, as something more than "the dawning of an attempt to alienate one portion of this country from the rest."

Resolved, That as a portion of the people of the 14th Congressional District, a part of that "West Augusta" of whom mountains Washington contemplated, if driven to extremities, and the devotion to the Union of our Representative in Congress, the Hon. J. M. H. BAKER, as manifested in his circular to his constituents, lately received at this place.

Resolved, That, heavy as have been our losses by the vile and pestilent intermeddlings of the abolitionists, and ready as we are to resist their aggressions, under theegis of the Union and the Constitution, we will know, and care not to resist would be wasted if that evil were taken away.

Resolved, That so long as our Representative in Congress shall pursue the course and act in the spirit indicated by his circular, he need not be disquieted by attacks from the newspaper press, or from any other source; for his constituents will be ever ready to send him the cheering voice of approval.

FINANCE STATISTICS.—The Bankers' Magazine and Statistical Register for March is received. Among the articles in this number which claim the attention of political economists are the following:

"On the importance of the Usury Laws. By JOHN WATKINS, Esq., of Providence."  
"The Tobacco Trade of Great Britain; with Statistical Tables of Revenue, Consumption," &c.  
"The Finances of Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania."

In addition to the usual Bank Statistics, are furnished three chapters of "The Chronicles of the Stock Exchange," with notices of the prominent stock operators of the last century. The sketch of the Finances of Maryland embraces its receipts and expenditures for 1848-49; recapitulation of the Funded Debt; and a view of the Sinking Fund, Capital, Funds, and Credit of the State; demonstrating the extinguishment of the public debt in sixteen years.

Published monthly, at \$5 per annum, by J. SMITH HONANS, 111 Washington street, Boston.

The population of Cumberland (Md.) has more than doubled in the last seven years, says the Civilian. Three years ago it was estimated at 7,000, and the census of 1850 may prove it to be near 10,000.

"TORMENTORS."—Eight twelves called "Tormentors" were sentenced at Philadelphia, on Saturday, to 20 months imprisonment each in the Eastern Penitentiary for attacking two men.

## TEXAS AND THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION.

Monday, the 4th instant, was appointed by a law of the Texas Legislature for the election, by vote of the people, of Delegates to represent Texas in the Nashville Convention—the Legislature having recommended four candidates for each of the Congressional districts.

By Galveston papers of the 8th instant we learn that not a vote was given for the Convention in that city or county. Although the municipal elections were held on the day named for the election of Delegates, "no one (says the *Christian*) took the least notice of the assumption and folly by a portion of the members of the Legislature in regard to this matter." At Houston the people took a vote for and against the Convention, which resulted in 7 votes for it and 165 against it. In Harris county there were 302 votes polled on the question. The persons suggested as Delegates to the Convention received only four votes; six other votes were given for the Convention without naming Delegates; and the remaining 295 votes were, "No Convention, no Disunion."

We have reports from no other counties. The Galveston Journal remarks that it has "no doubt that the recommendation, law, or whatever else it may be termed, passed by the Legislature relative to the matter, will meet with just such a merited rebuke throughout the entire State."

The candidates named by the Legislature are: for the Eastern District Judge John T. Mills, Col. C. C. Mills, Gen. J. P. Henderson, and J. Davis; for the Western District H. G. Brownly, James Mayfield, Hamilton Bee, and H. G. Runnels.

The Kanawha (Va.) Republican of March 13th says that the advocates of the Nashville Convention in that part of Virginia are indeed "few and far between."

## UNION MEETING AT NATCHEZ, (Miss.)

A very large meeting of the citizens of Natchez and Adams county, (Mississippi), without distinction of party, was held at the court-house in Natchez on Saturday, the 9th instant, for the purpose of expressing their opinion on the subject of the dissolution of the Union. The New Orleans Picayune has the following notice of its proceedings:

DR. STEPHEN DUNCAN, on being called to the chair, made a most fervid and eloquent speech in support of the Union, and said that no man's interest was more identified with the South than his, and no man would dare to accuse him of treason to his State. He approved of the constitution of California and her admission into the Union. The people of that State had a right to make their own laws, and legislate for themselves, and the South had no more right to dictate to them on the subject of slavery than the North had a right to dictate to the South. Mr. McCRAWL then rose and addressed the people in a speech glowing with patriotic sentiments, and was followed by Col. BRYAN and Judge WINCHESTER in able addresses, marked with sentiments of devotion to the Union. A number of appropriate resolutions, maintaining the Constitution and the unity of the Confederation, were then passed. Gen. STANTON afterwards addressed the meeting, opposing the admission of California into the Union, with some strictures on the North, when the meeting adjourned.

## THE SOUTHERN CONVENTION MOVEMENTS.

FLORIDA.—The late letter of Governor BROWN, of Florida, has not had the effect of preventing meetings with the intent to send delegates to the Nashville Convention.

There was recently held in Gadsden county—the most populous and wealthy in the State—a meeting composed of influential gentlemen of both political parties, and great unanimity prevailed. The resolutions reported by a committee appointed for the purpose, were unanimously adopted. They declare love and reverence for the Union upon the principles of the Constitution, but firm and decided resistance if Congress enforce the Wilcox proviso, and thus, as they hold, violate that instrument. The refusal of Governor BROWN to take any step in the matter has induced the Gadsden meeting to recommend a State Convention of delegates from the several counties to meet at the capitol, in Tallahassee, on the first of May, to make suitable selections for delegates to the Southern Convention.

The Jacksonville (Florida) News of the 2d instant has a call for a meeting of the citizens of Duval county to take necessary measures for the selection of a delegate to represent the Eastern and Southern portion of Florida in that Convention. The editor expresses his belief that other sections of the State will take similar steps to be represented in the Convention, and that Florida will be prepared with a full delegation to meet the emergency, should the action of Congress render a Convention necessary.

ALABAMA.—Col. BOYKIN, one of the delegates named by the Alabama Legislative caucus to represent the first Congressional district at Nashville, has published a card expressing the opinion that the selection had better be referred to the source of all power, the people; and he proposes that primary meetings be held for the purpose.

GEORGIA.—Hon. W. J. LAWTON writes a letter to the Savannah Georgian, declining to serve as a delegate to the Nashville Convention. He says: "I have a devotion almost to idolatry to the glorious stars and stripes."

The people of Cass county, in Georgia, have held a meeting, irrespective of party, at which they passed resolutions in favor of admitting California into the Union "with proper limits," and protesting against the Southern Convention proposed to be held at Nashville, as involving danger to the Union.

MISSISSIPPI.—Notwithstanding the late meetings in Mississippi in favor of the admission of California, the lower House of the Legislature has voted to appropriate \$20,000 to pay the expenses of the delegates to the Nashville Convention, and to appropriate \$200,000 more to future contingencies, subject to the control of the Legislature. This last was carried by a vote of 44 to 40.

The Natchez (Miss.) Courier contains a call, signed by two hundred and sixty-six citizens, for a meeting at the public court-house in that place of "the friends of the integrity of the Union who are not opposed to the admission of California with her present constitution."

TEXAS.—The Legislature of Texas, just previous to its adjournment, passed an act providing for the election by the people of four delegates to the Nashville Convention from each of the two Congressional districts, and voted down a resolution instructing said delegates to oppose every act on the part of said Convention which might tend to a dissolution of the American Union. They also, on the 25th January, unanimously passed resolutions concerning the slavery question. The first four are the same that were offered in the Senate in 1847 by Mr. Calhoun. The sixth resolution declares that they are ready to make common cause with their sister States of the South in any measure of defence of their constitutional rights.

How THE NEWSPAPERS STAND.—On looking over our exchange list we find that we receive sixty papers published in ten of the slaveholding States, extending from Maryland to Louisiana, and out of the sixty we cannot count up more than about fifteen, or one-fourth, which take decided ground for a Southern Convention. The rest are either strongly opposed to it, doubt as to its utility, or silent on the subject.—*Wilmington Chronicle*.

Hon. WALTER FORWARD, United States Chargé d'Affaires to Denmark, left Pittsburgh on Wednesday last for the seat of his mission.

The Legislature of Massachusetts has granted an act of incorporation to an association to be entitled the New England Art Union. EDWARD EVERETT, Professor LONGFELLOW, FRANKLIN DEXTER, Esq., and others, are among the Board of Managers.

"RIDE" ON A RAIL.—An itinerant scamp, who left his own wife in Illinois, and ran away with another woman, attempted to preach lately at Grandview, Iowa; but some of the citizens, who had got wind of the fellow's true character, gathered round him, the pulpit to the church door, where he was placed on the sharp edge of a rail, and in that situation ridden about town.

## THE LATEST VOICE FROM MISSOURI.

Pursuant to a call previously published, signed by about one hundred of the friends of Colonel BAXTON, in the city of St. Louis, for a meeting of the Democrats of St. Louis to take measures preparatory to the charter election, and to decide whether the issue of BAXTON and the Union or CALHOUN and Disunion shall be considered in making the nominations for the spring election, a large meeting of the Democrats of St. Louis assembled at the court-house on the evening of March 7. JOHN SMITH, Esq. was called to preside, and RICHARD J. HOWARD, appointed secretary.

MR. SMITH'S thereupon offered the following resolutions, which were read:

Whereas John C. Calhoun and Thomas H. Benton are pursuing their legitimate duties in the United States Senate; and whereas it is the general disposition among the old-fashioned Democrats to sustain measures and not men. Therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Democracy of St. Louis, will at the approaching municipal election make a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether.

Colonel HANNEY submitted the following as an amendment to said resolutions, which was read:

Resolved, That the Democracy of St. Louis continues to cherish a sincere attachment to the principles adopted and promulgated by the National Democratic Convention which assembled in the city of Baltimore in the years 1844 and 1848.

When the amendment was read, a discussion arose as to the propriety of the meeting taking cognizance of, or making the question of Benton or Calhoun an issue in the coming contest. After which,

Captain THOMAS GREY moved that the original resolution and amendment be laid on the table, and that a committee be appointed to present resolutions to the meeting for their action.

Colonel HANNEY then took the floor and urged peace and harmony. It was necessary to succeed, and as the issue was presented in the resolutions now before the meeting, it was more likely to be attained.

Mr. GREY believed the resolutions before the meeting did not properly present the views of the great mass of the Democrats of the city of St. Louis. He wanted harmony and a union of the party, and this was only to be effected among Democrats by presenting the issue of Benton and the Union or Calhoun and Disunion; questions which must be determined in the coming municipal contest, preparatory to the August campaign, disguise the matter as you please. He withdrew his motion to lay on the table, and submitted the following as a substitute for the original resolution before the meeting. The substitute was read as follows:

Whereas it is deemed proper by the Democracy assembled on this occasion to make known the principles which they desire to be controlled in the approaching city election. Whereas the people of St. Louis are entitled to the support of the people from their personal qualifications to discharge the duties imposed by the stations for which they will be presented, anticipate, with confidence, a glorious triumph in the approaching contest. This, however, is not to be expected, nor will it be desired, from the great central and city election, already containing within it a population drawn from all the States of the Confederacy, as well as from almost all the nations of Europe, unless the dangerous doctrines advanced by some persons over that subject are discarded, and resolutions should be as distinctly and fairly presented, than upon other occasions, when power is to be conferred with reference to the political views of the candidates. The Democracy here assembled, confident in the correctness of their views upon the momentous topics which now agitate the public mind, and believing also that the candidates who will be selected as the opponents of those views will be entitled to the support of the people from their personal qualifications to discharge the duties imposed by the stations for which they will be presented, anticipate, with confidence, a glorious triumph in the approaching contest. This, however, is not to be expected, nor will it be desired, from the great central and city election, already containing within it a population drawn from all the States of the Confederacy, as well as from almost all the nations of Europe, unless the dangerous doctrines advanced by some persons over that subject are discarded, and resolutions should be as distinctly and fairly presented, than upon other occasions, when power is to be conferred with reference to the political views of the candidates. 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